



## Hitting the Floor Running



Major Initiatives Introduced by RSC Members in  
the First Three Weeks of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress.

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Please note: This is not an exhaustive list and certain bill titles have been edited for clarity.

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## **RSC Initiatives**

*Rep. Jordan (R-OH) – H.R. 408: The Spending Reduction Act* – This legislation would reduce federal spending by \$2.5 trillion over ten years. The bill would specifically hold FY 2011 non-security discretionary spending to FY 08 levels, hold non-defense discretionary spending to FY 06 levels thereafter for the rest of the ten-year budget window (the same level as in effect during the last year of GOP control of the Congress), and would enact more than 100 other program eliminations or savings proposals, consisting of proposals from the RSC Sunset Caucus, YouCut, or past RSC budgets.

*Rep. McClintock (R-CA) – H.R. 421: The Full Faith and Credit Act* – This legislation would direct the United States Treasury, in the event the debt ceiling is reached, to pay principal and interest due on debt held by the public before making any other payments. This would prevent the United States from defaulting on its debt in the event the Treasury Department reaches the statutory debt limit.

## **Cutting Congress First**

*Rep. Gingrey (R-GA) – H.R. 124: To provide that rates of pay for Members of Congress shall not be adjusted in the year following any fiscal year in which outlays exceed receipts* – This legislation would prevent an automatic rise in the annual salary of Members of Congress in a year following a fiscal year in which there is a federal budget deficit.

*Rep. Buchanan (R-FL) – H.R. 236: To provide that rates of pay for Members of Congress shall not be adjusted in the year following any fiscal year in which outlays exceed receipts* – This legislation would prevent an automatic rise in the annual salary of Members of Congress in a year following a fiscal year in which there is a federal budget deficit.

*Rep. Stearns (R-FL) – H.R. 172: The Deficit Accountability Act of 2011* – This legislation would establish that Members of Congress would receive no automatic pay adjustment in a year following a fiscal year in which there is a federal budget deficit.

*Rep. Wilson (R-SC) – H.R. 187: The Congressional Pay Reform Act of 2011* – This legislation would establish that Members of Congress may receive no automatic pay adjustment and that any bill or resolution, or amendment to the same, which would increase Member's pay may be adopted only by a recorded vote.

*Rep. Coffman (R-CO) – H.R. 270: To Provide for a Reduction in Pay for Members of Congress, and for other purposes* – This legislation would reduce the pay of Members of Congress by 10%, make federal civilian employees subject to 2 weeks of mandatory unpaid leave, and reduce the annual allowance to Members of Congress and all other offices within the legislative branch for salaries and expenses by 4% for FY 2012.

*Rep. Griffith (R-VA) – H.R. 270: To Provide for a Reduction in Pay for Members of Congress –*  
This legislation would reduce the pay of Members of Congress by 10%.

## **Budget/Spending**

### **Constitutional Amendments Requiring a Balanced Budget or Spending Caps**

*Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA) – H.J.Res. 1 –* This constitutional amendment would require a balanced federal budget unless three-fifths of each House of Congress approve deficit spending, and cap federal government spending at 20% of the Gross Domestic Product of the United States 20% spending unless two-thirds of each House of Congress to override the cap. It would require the President to transmit to Congress a balanced budget, and require any vote raising taxes or the debt limit to receive a three-fifths majority. The amendment would provide for a waiver while a declaration of war was in effect.

*Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA) – H.J.Res. 2 –* This constitutional amendment would require any budget where outlays would exceed total receipts to receive a three-fifths majority of each House of Congress, and require the same number for any bill raising the debt limit. It would require the President to transmit to Congress a balanced budget, and would require a majority of the whole number of each House to approve any bill raising taxes by rollcall vote. The amendment would provide for a waiver while a declaration of war was in effect.

*Rep. Buchanan (R-FL) – H.J.Res. 4 –* This constitutional amendment would require any budget where outlays would exceed total receipts to receive a three-fifths majority of each House of Congress, and require the same number for any bill raising the debt limit. It would require the President to transmit to Congress a balanced budget, and would require a majority of the whole number of each House to approve any bill raising taxes by rollcall vote. The amendment would provide for a waiver while a declaration of war was in effect and would not consider outlays for natural disasters when reconciling outlays with receipts for a fiscal year.

*Rep. Hensarling (R-TX) – H.J.Res 5 –* This constitutional amendment would cap federal government spending at 20% of the Gross Domestic Product of the United States. This amendment would require two-thirds of each House of Congress to override the cap and provide for an exemption while a declaration of war was in effect.

*Rep. Broun (R-GA) – H.J.Res. 11 –* This constitutional amendment would require a balanced federal budget unless two-thirds of each House of Congress approve deficit spending, it would require the same two-thirds majority to raise the debt limit and raise taxes. It would also cap spending each fiscal year by the spending the previous fiscal year plus population growth and inflation. It would require the President to transmit to Congress a balanced budget, and

provide that any excess revenues be returned to the taxpayers by appropriate legislation. The amendment would provide for a waiver while a declaration of war was in effect.

### **Other Budget/Spending Initiatives**

*Rep. Brady (R-TX) – H.R. 235: The Cut Unsustainable and Top-Heavy Spending (CUTS) Act of 2011* – This legislation would cut or eliminate funding for nearly 50 programs or departments previously targeted for cuts by the bipartisan Deficit Reduction Commission or termination by the Bush or Obama Administrations. Over the next five years, this legislation would save over \$150 billion.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 94/93/95: To Make Across-the-Board Rescissions in Discretionary Spending* – This legislation would make 5/10/15 percent across-the-board rescissions in non-defense, non-homeland-security, and non-veterans-affairs discretionary spending for each of the fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

*Rep. Royce (R-CA) – H.R. 155: The Government Reform Act of 2011* – This legislation would create a national commission, modeled after the successful Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, to establish a timely, independent, and fair process for realigning or closing outdated, ineffective, or inefficient Executive agencies.

*Rep. Woodall (R-GA) – H.R. 189: To Repeal the Troubled Asset Relief Program and to Prevent Future Bailouts* – This legislation would immediately repeal the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and dispose of all assets received by the Treasury under the Program in a manner so as to maximize the overall return from those assets. It would also find that Congress should not provide bailouts or act as a lender of last resort, and would prohibit Congress from making a law providing a bailout to one or more entities in the private sector.

*Rep. Cole (R-OK) – H.R. 359: To Terminate Taxpayer Financing of Presidential Election Campaigns and Party Conventions* – This legislation would eliminate the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account. It would also eliminate the option for taxpayers to contribute \$3 of their income tax liability for financing of presidential election campaigns, and prevent those funds from being dispersed for use at party conventions.

## **Taxes**

### **Preventing Tax Increases**

*Rep. Bachmann (R-MN) – H.R. 86: End Tax Uncertainty Act of 2011* – This legislation would make permanent the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, permanently repeal estate and gift taxes,

eliminate the alternative minimum tax on individuals, and lower the maximum corporate tax rate to 25%.

*Rep. Neugebauer (R-TX) – H.R. 206: To Prevent Pending Tax Increases and for Other Purposes* – This legislation would make permanent the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, make deductions for state and local sales taxes and tuition and related expenses permanent, and increase allowable expensing for small businesses.

*Rep. Gingrey (R-GA) – H.R. 123: To Make Certain Tax Relief Permanent, and to Repeal the Estate Tax* – This legislation would make permanent the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, and permanently repeal estate and gift taxes.

*Rep. Wilson (R-SC) – H.R. 185: The Permanent Tax Relief Act of 2011* – This legislation would make permanent the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts and further permanently reduce each individual income tax bracket's rate by 5% from their current level.

### **Other Tax Initiatives**

*Rep. Woodall (R-GA) – H.R. 25: The Fair Tax Act of 2011* – This legislation would abolish all federal personal and corporate income taxes, as well as gift, estate, capital gains, alternative minimum, Social Security, Medicare, and self-employment taxes and replace them with a federal retail sales tax of 23% to be administered primarily by existing state sales tax authorities. More information on the "FairTax" is available [here](#).

*Rep. Latta (R-OH) – H.R. 143: The Permanently Repeal the Estate Tax Act of 2011* – This legislation would repeal the estate tax permanently.

*Rep. Thornberry (R-TX) – H.R. 177: The Death Tax Repeal Act* – This legislation would repeal the estate and gift taxes permanently.

*Rep. Bartlett (R-MD) – H.R. 88: To Change the Deadline for Income Tax Returns* – This legislation would change the deadline for filing income tax returns from the 15th of April to the first Monday in November – the day before election day.

## **Health Care**

### **ObamaCare Repeals and Related Initiatives**

*Rep. Cantor (R-VA) – H.R. 2: Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act* – This legislation would repeal ObamaCare.



*Rep. King (R-IA) – H.R. 141: To Repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.* – This legislation would repeal ObamaCare.

*Rep. Mack (R-FL) – H.R. 145: To Repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Related Health-Care Provisions.* – This legislation would repeal ObamaCare.

*Rep. Broun (R-GA) – H.R. 299: To Repeal To Repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, and for other purposes* – This legislation would repeal ObamaCare, repeal the 7.5 percent threshold on the deduction for medical expenses, provide for increased funding for high-risk pools, allow individuals to acquire health insurance across State lines, and allow for the creation of association health plans.

*Rep. Garrett (R-NJ) – H.R. 21: The Reclaiming Individual Liberty Act* – This legislation would repeal the mandate included in ObamaCare that individuals purchase health insurance.

*Rep. Graves (R-GA) – H.R. 127: To Deauthorize Appropriation of Funds to Carry Out the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act* – This legislation would deauthorize the appropriation of funds to carry out any of the provisions ObamaCare.

*Rep. Fleming (R-LA) – H.R. 38: To Rescind Funds Appropriated to the Health Insurance Reform Implementation Fund under the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010* – This legislation would rescind any funds remaining of those appropriated for the implementation of ObamaCare.

*Rep. Forbes (R-VA) – H.R. 334: The Prevent IRS Overreach Act of 2011* – This legislation would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from hiring new employees to enforce the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

*Rep. Lungren (R-CA) – H.R. 4: The Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act of 2011* – This legislation would repeal section 9006 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which requires every corporation to file a 1099 form for each payment of over \$600 made to individuals or corporations.

*Rep. Scalise (R-LA) – H.R. 60: To Repeal the Expansion of Information Reporting Requirements for Payments of \$600 or More to Corporations* – This legislation would repeal section 9006 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which requires every corporation to file a 1099 form for each payment of over \$600 made to individuals or corporations.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 371: Health Care Choice Act of 2011* – This legislation would repeal Title I of ObamaCare, which includes the health insurance provisions of the law. It also provides for the purchase of health insurance across state lines.

## **Other Health Care Initiatives**

*Rep. Burton (R-IN) – H.R. 105: The Empowering Patients First Act* – This legislation is the reintroduction of the Republican Study Committee’s health care reform bill from the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. Further information and short and extended summaries are available [here](#).

*Rep. Stearns (R-FL) – H.R. 171: The Health Care Tax Deduction Act of 2011* – This legislation would allow individuals to annually deduct the combined sum of all qualified health insurance costs and any unreimbursed prescription drug expense paid for by the individual for themselves or their spouse and dependents.

*Rep. Pearce (R-NM) – H.R. 346: Health Care Choice Act of 2011* – This legislation would allow for the purchase of health insurance across state lines and provide a procedure for independent external appeals.

*Rep. Austria (R-OH) – H.R. 369: The Health Savings and Affordability Act of 2011* – This legislation would allow individuals to annually deduct the combined sum of all qualified health insurance costs. It would also grant an increase in health savings account (HSA) contribution limits and allow both spouses to make catch-up contributions to an HSA.

*Rep. Thornberry (R-TX) – H.R. 314: The Medical Liability Procedural Reform Act of 2011* – This legislation would provide grants to several states for the development, implementation, and evaluation of health care tribunals. A health care tribunal is a trial court or administrative tribunal whose sole function is to adjudicate disputes over injuries allegedly caused by health care providers. The judges for such a tribunal have health care expertise and rely on independent expert witnesses.

*Rep. Thornberry (R-TX) – H.R. 315: The Health Care Paperwork Reduction and Fraud Prevention Act* – This legislation would reduce the amount of paperwork and improve payment policies for health care services, and prevent fraud and abuse through health care provider education. It would establish a National Bipartisan Commission on Billing Codes and Forms Simplification, create a simple process for physicians and providers to receive assistance with questionable codes and procedures, and reforms the implementation process for new evaluation and management guidelines under the Medicare program and the treatment of physician overpayments by the Department of Health and Human Services.

## **Regulations**

*Rep. Davis (R-KY) – H.R. 10: The Regulation From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act of 2011* – This legislation would require any major rule – a rule resulting in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, a major increase in costs or prices, or significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or U.S. competitiveness –



be approved by Congress within 70 session or legislative days or it would not go into effect. It also amends House and Senate procedures for joint resolutions approving major rules and disapproving non-major rules.

*Rep. Bachmann (R-MN) – H.R. 87: To Repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act* – This legislation would repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act passed in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 96: The Internet Freedom Act of 2011* – This legislation would prevent the Federal Communications Commission from imposing Net Neutrality. It puts jurisdiction over the issue in the hands of Congress, not bureaucrats at the FCC.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 97: The Free Industry Act* - This legislation removes the EPA’s authority to regulate the six major greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

*Rep. Stearns (R-FL) – H.R. 166: The Internet Investment, Innovation, and Competition Preservation Act* – This legislation would prohibit the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from regulating information services or Internet access services absent a specific, targetable market failure. It would require the FCC in those limited circumstances to use the least restrictive regulation necessary and reexamine the regulation every two years to ensure it remains necessary and beneficial.

## **Immigration**

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 100: The Clear Act of 2011* – This legislation would prevent federal “Catch and Release” policies by denying SCAAP funds – which reimburse state and local governments for the cost of incarcerating illegal aliens – to governments that refuse to help the federal government enforce immigration law. Furthermore, the CLEAR Act of 2011 ensures officers have the authority, information, and resources they need to identify illegal immigrants in the course of their normal duty, and would provide for a listing of immigration violators in the National Crime Information Center database.

*Rep. King (R-IA) – H.R. 140: The Birthright Citizenship Act of 2011* – This legislation would clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth, including those individuals of whom one parent is a citizens or nations of the U.S., an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence who resides in the U.S., or an alien actively serving in the armed forces.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 102: The Photo Identification Security Act* – This legislation would restrict the forms of identification acceptable to the federal government and financial institutions. The only acceptable forms of identification would be a social security card with photo identification card issued by the federal or a state government, a passport, or a photo identification card issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

*Rep. Myrick (R-NC) – H.R. 310: The Secure Education for Americans Today (SEAT) Act of 2011* – This legislation would deny federal funds available to institutions of higher education under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to any institution that has a policy or practice of admitting as students of the institution individuals who are aliens who are not lawfully present in the United States.

## **Other Initiatives**

*Rep. Scalise (R-LA) – H.R. 56: The Gulf Coast Restoration Act* – This legislation would provide for restoration of the coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill by establishing a Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force and Fund which would disburse 80% of any funds received by the federal government from penalties, settlements, and fines collected in relation to the Deepwater Horizon on projects restoring the Gulf Coast approved by the Task Force in association with Gulf Coast state governors.

*Rep. Scalise (R-LA) – H.R. 59: The Sunset All Czars Act* – This legislation would define the term “czar” and would forbid the use of any appropriated funds to pay salaries or expenses of any task force, council, policy office, or similar established by the President and headed by a “czar,” as defined in the Act.

*Rep. Pence (R-IN) – H.R. 245: To Amend the Federal Reserve Act to Remove the Mandate on the Federal Reserve to Focus on Maximum Employment* – This legislation would remove the mandate on the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee to focus on maximum employment, refocusing the Federal Reserve on its original mandate to maintain price stability.

*Rep. Broun (R-GA) – H.R. 87: The Sanctity of Human Life Act* – This legislation would declare that the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution is vested in each human being, and is the paramount and most fundamental right of a person. It finds that the life of each human being begins at fertilization and declares that from that time moment forward every human being shall have all the legal and constitutional attributes and privileges of personhood. The legislation also affirms the authority of Congress and the States and Territories to protect the lives of all human beings in their jurisdictions.

*Rep. Pence (R-IN) – H.R. 217: The Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act* – This legislation would prohibit family planning grants from being awarded to any entity that performs, or funds an entity that performs, abortions – particularly focusing on defunding Planned Parenthood.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 103: The Health Care Choices for Seniors Act* – This legislation would allow seniors to choose their HSA over Medicare without penalty. The bill splits the connection between Social Security and Medicare, provides a voucher for those that opt-out of

Medicare in return for their years of paying Medicare payroll taxes, and would allow individuals to continue tax-free contributions to their HSA. Additionally, the bill would delay enrollment penalties until age 70 to allow seniors more flexibility to keep their HSA after age 65.

*Rep. Blackburn (R-TN) – H.R. 234: The Savings for Seniors Act of 2011* – This legislation would prohibit Congress from spending Social Security surpluses and form a bipartisan commission to consider the best use of those funds. Social Security tax receipts that are not used to pay current Social Security expenses would be placed in an off-budget account and remain there until Congress passed legislation that approves an investment vehicle for the funds. This would serve to prevent Social Security surpluses from being invested in the obligations of the Federal government.

*Rep. Hunter (R-CA) – H.R. 290: The War Memorial Protection Act* – This legislation would ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols.

*Rep. Lee (R-NY) – H.R. 292: The Stop the OverPrinting (STOP) Act* – This Act would eliminate the mandatory printing of bills and resolutions by the Government Printing Office and make bills and resolutions available to the offices of Members of Congress only in an electronic format accessible through the Internet.

*Rep. Hunter (R-CA) – H.R. 337: The Restore Military Readiness Act of 2011* – This legislation would amend current law to require that, in addition to the President, Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, all four service chiefs must certify that implementation of the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell will in no way degrade the readiness, effectiveness, cohesion and morale of combat arms units and personnel of the Armed Forces engaged in combat and deployed to a combat theater before implementation can begin.

*Rep. Jenkins (R-KS) – H.R. 339: The End the Lame Duck Act* – This legislation would deem any adjournment in effect during a regularly scheduled federal general election to be an adjournment sine die. Congress would remain in adjournment until the start of the next Congress, unless there was written agreement between the majority and minority leadership of the House and Senate, and this legislation would provide for automatic continuing appropriations in the event a regular appropriations bill does not become law before the general federal election.

*Rep. Neugebauer (R-TX) – H.R. 344: The Fiscal Responsibility Effective Enforcement (FREE) Act of 2011* – This legislation would remove the power of Federal Reserve banks to buy and sell municipal securities – those issued by states, counties, districts, political subdivisions, and municipalities.

*Rep. Pitts (R-PA) – H.R. 358: The Protect Life Act* – This legislation would eliminate or amend the provisions in ObamaCare that provide for federal funding of abortion and prevent such funding under that Act.

*Rep. Fleming (R-LA) – H.R. 361: The Abortion Non-Discrimination Act of 2011* – This legislation would protect health care providers from being required to perform or participate in abortions, provide abortion training, pay for abortion, or make referrals for abortion or abortion training.

*Rep. Foxx (R-NC) – H.R. 373: The Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2011* – This legislation would fix loopholes in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 which reined in expensive and unfunded federal mandates, but exempted certain policies and agencies from its reporting requires. The bill would also require reports on how changed federal requirements on state-administered programs could negatively impact state or local government budgets and the private sector.

*Rep. Hunter (R-CA) – H.R. 374: The Life at Conception Act* – This legislation would implement equal protection for the right to life of each born and preborn human person and declare that the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution is vested in each human being. It would define the terms “human person” and “human being” to “include each and every member of the species homo sapiens at all stages of life, including the moment of fertilization, cloning, or other moment at which an individual member of the human species comes into being.”

*Rep. Rooney (R-FL) – H.R. 388: The Detainee Trials at Gitmo Act* – This legislation would provide for the indefinite use of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and would mandate that any individual detain at that facility on the date of enactment be tried by a military commission at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

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